



Preventing the occurrence and spread of aquatic weed infestations in South Carolina waters can save millions of public and private dollars each year in avoided control costs.



South Carolina Noxious Weed List

Alligatorweed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>
Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i>
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
Hydrilla *	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Slender naiad	<i>Najas minor</i>
Water chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>
Water lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>
Water primrose	<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>
African oxygen weed *	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
Ambulia *	<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>
Arrowhead *	<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>
Arrow-leaved monochoria *	<i>Monochoria hastata</i>
Duck-lettuce *	<i>Ottelia alismoides</i>
Exotic bur reed *	<i>Sparganium erectum</i>
Giant salvinia *	<i>Salvinia molesta</i> <i>S. biloba</i> , <i>S. herzogii</i> , <i>S. auriculata</i>
Mediterranean caulerpa *	<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>
Melaleuca *	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>
Miramar weed *	<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>
Pickernel weed *	<i>Monochoria vaginalis</i>
Mosquito fern *	<i>Azolla pinnata</i>
Rooted water hyacinth *	<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>
Water spinach *	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>
Wetland nightshade *	<i>Solanum tampicense</i>

* Also on the Federal Noxious Weed List

Aquatic Plant Management



In South Carolina Waters

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR JUST NEED MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US AT THE FOLLOWING:

www.dnr.state.sc.us/water/envaff/aquatic/index.html

E-mail: pagec@dnr.sc.gov



Aquatic Nuisance Species Program
2730 Fish Hatchery Road
West Columbia, SC 29172
Phone (803)755-2836



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net



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What are Nuisance Aquatic Plants?

Aquatic plants are an important and beneficial part of lakes and rivers. However, some water plants, especially invasive non-native species that lack natural predators and diseases to keep their growth in check, can develop large nuisance populations. Some of the more common nuisance aquatic plants in South Carolina include hydrilla, water hyacinth, giant salvinia, water primrose, and alligatorweed.

Why are Invasive Plants a Problem?

Because invasive aquatic plant infestations can be very dense and cover large areas they can harm the aquatic environment and impair a variety of water use activities. Environmental impacts include degraded water quality, displaced native plant species, increased breeding habitat for mosquitos and other pests, and imbalance of desirable fish populations.

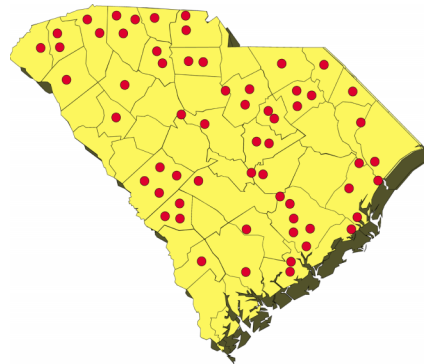
What is being done?

Aquatic weed problems are such a large problem in South Carolina the state legislature established the Aquatic Plant Management Program for the purpose of preventing, identifying, investigating, managing, and monitoring aquatic plant problems in public waters.

The Department of Natural Resources administers the Aquatic Plant Management Program in coordination with the S.C. Aquatic Plant Management Council, a ten member board representing several state agencies and the Governor's Office.

Aquatic Plant Management Plan

Each year, a statewide Aquatic Plant Management Plan is prepared, reviewed by the public, approved by the Council, and implemented using public and private funds. Over 60 public water bodies throughout the state have benefitted from these control activities including the Santee Cooper lakes, Lake Murray, Back River Reservoir, Goose Creek Reservoir, the Cooper River, Black River, Pee Dee River, Waccamaw River, and numerous State Park Lakes. Public comments on the plan are encouraged.



Aquatic Nuisance Species: The Law!

South Carolina, like other states, has adopted laws to prevent the importation, sale, and distribution of specific invasive aquatic plant species known to cause problems. The South Carolina Noxious Weed Act and State Crop Pest Act provide far reaching powers to "seize, quarantine, treat, destroy, or otherwise dispose of any noxious weed," imported, distributed, or sold in South Carolina. To further deter persons from spreading nuisance aquatic weeds the law includes fines up to \$500 and/or imprisonment up to one year. The Department of Natural Resources is assisting in the implementation of these laws and others to keep these problem plants out of South Carolina.

How you can help!

Aquatic weed problems are caused primarily by boaters and fishermen unknowingly spreading aquatic weeds from one lake to another and homeowners disposing of water garden and aquarium plants in public waters and private ponds. You can help control the spread of nuisance aquatic plants by doing the following:

When you leave a body of water:

- ◆ Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.
- ◆ Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
- ◆ Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
- ◆ Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.
- ◆ Report aquatic weed problems in public waters to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program, SCDNR (1-803-755-2836).

